

**SUMTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

SUBJECT: El Camino @ Buenos Aires Pedestrian Crossing Improvements. (Board Option).

REQUESTED ACTION: Board Direction.

☐ Work Session (Report Only) **DATE OF MEETING:** 6/14/2011
☒ Regular Meeting ☐ Special Meeting

CONTRACT: ☐ N/A

Effective Date: _____

Managing Division / Dept: _____

Vendor/Entity: _____

Termination Date: _____

Public Works Division/Engineering

BUDGET IMPACT: Up to ~\$221,337.50

☐ Annual

FUNDING SOURCE:

To be determined

☒ Capital

EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT:

To be determined

☐ N/A

HISTORY/FACTS/ISSUES:

The Public Works Division received a Memorandum dated April 26, 2011 from the Villages Committee for Safe Access Accommodations requesting a pedestrian crossing at the intersection of Buenos Aires and El Camino Real in order to access the Santa Barbara Professional Plaza and the Buenos Aires Professional Plaza (see attached).

The request is to modify the existing vehicular traffic signals to allow pedestrian activated cross walk signals and to install concrete sidewalks to access both the Santa Barbara and Buenos Aires Professional Plazas. Public Works staff reviewed the existing conditions of this intersection for feasibility and developed two alternatives, Option 1 and Option 2.

The request also stated if the Buenos Aires @ El Camino intersection is not feasible, then consider a pedestrian crossing at El Camino @ Banderos Ave. However, because this intersection is unsignalized and installation of mast arms and pedestrian signals would be the most costly option and create additional traffic delays, this option was not evaluated further.

Option 1 proposes to modify the existing traffic signals, install crosswalk striping along Buenos Aires and El Camino Real, modify the existing curb to install 6 handicap ramps, and install approximately 130 feet of 6 foot sidewalks (see attached). Although this option appears to have the least amount of impacts to accommodate the requested improvements, cooperation with and easements from the Buenos Aires and Santa Barbara Plaza property owners is required in order to extend the sidewalk to the private parking facilities. Public Works has not contacted the property owners at this point.

Option 2 proposes to modify the existing traffic signals, install crosswalk striping along Buenos Aires and El Camino Real, modify the existing curb to install 6 handicap ramps, and install approximately 1100 feet of 6 foot sidewalks adjacent and parallel to Buenos Aires Boulevard (both sides) (see attached). The available right of way is only 4 feet on both sides of Buenos Aires Boulevard; however a 6 foot sidewalk is needed to meet Florida Department of Transportation standards, which the County adheres to. Therefore, additional right of way would need to be acquired either thru purchase or easement. In addition, this option appears to impact existing landscape vegetation and utilities. Public Works has not contacted property owners at this point.

Refer to the Opinion of Probable Cost (OPC) and the exhibits for details on both options. Please note

that the OPC contains rough estimates, to include easement requirements.

This project is not within the FY10/11 budget for Public Works. Staff requests direction from the Board. If either option is selected, Staff will then develop the concept, contact the property owners regarding the need for easements, and refine the cost estimate before bringing it back to the Board for approval to proceed with the project.

MEMORANDUM (APRIL 26, 2011)

**TO: SUMTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND
CONCERNED VILLAGE RESIDENTS**

**FROM: THE VILLAGES COMMITTEE FOR SAFE ACCESS
ACCOMMODATIONS**

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WALKING PATHS TO NEARBY
OFFICES AND SHOPS**

RATIONALE:

The management of The Villages have always promoted in their literature that this is a golf cart assessable community. It also should be noted that these same paths were to be used by walkers. This request is seeking to make part of this promise a reality. It is desired that Village residents have a safe walking access to the Santa Barbara Professional Plaza and the Buenos Aires Professional Plaza facilities.

Many residents of The Villages (including Freedom Pointe) do not drive automobiles and use golf carts as their basic form of transportation. Others in The Villages and at the Freedom Pointe Independent Living facility do not have golf carts or automobiles and need to walk to the two identified Plazas. However, there has been no major emphasis on securing safe crosswalks for this population.

It is important to note that the Freedom Pointe Independent Living facility currently has 240 residents and it will eventually hold 480 residents. Currently 60 employees work full time in this facility. Most of this population use the two facilities identified on a regular basis. Yet they have no safe walking access to either plaza.

The residents and Freedom Pointe pay approximately \$950,000 in local taxes per annum. This is a sizable figure for one facility to pay to say the least.

A close examination of the existing golf cart tunnel crossing under El Camino Real quickly determined that it was unsafe for walkers. To use it as such would require that the tunnel be widened and the entry and exit slopes be reduced to 10 degrees elevation. The slopes currently are close to 30 degrees. Both of these requirements would be difficult to correct. Even if they were corrected, walkers would still not have access to the Buenos Aries Plaza.

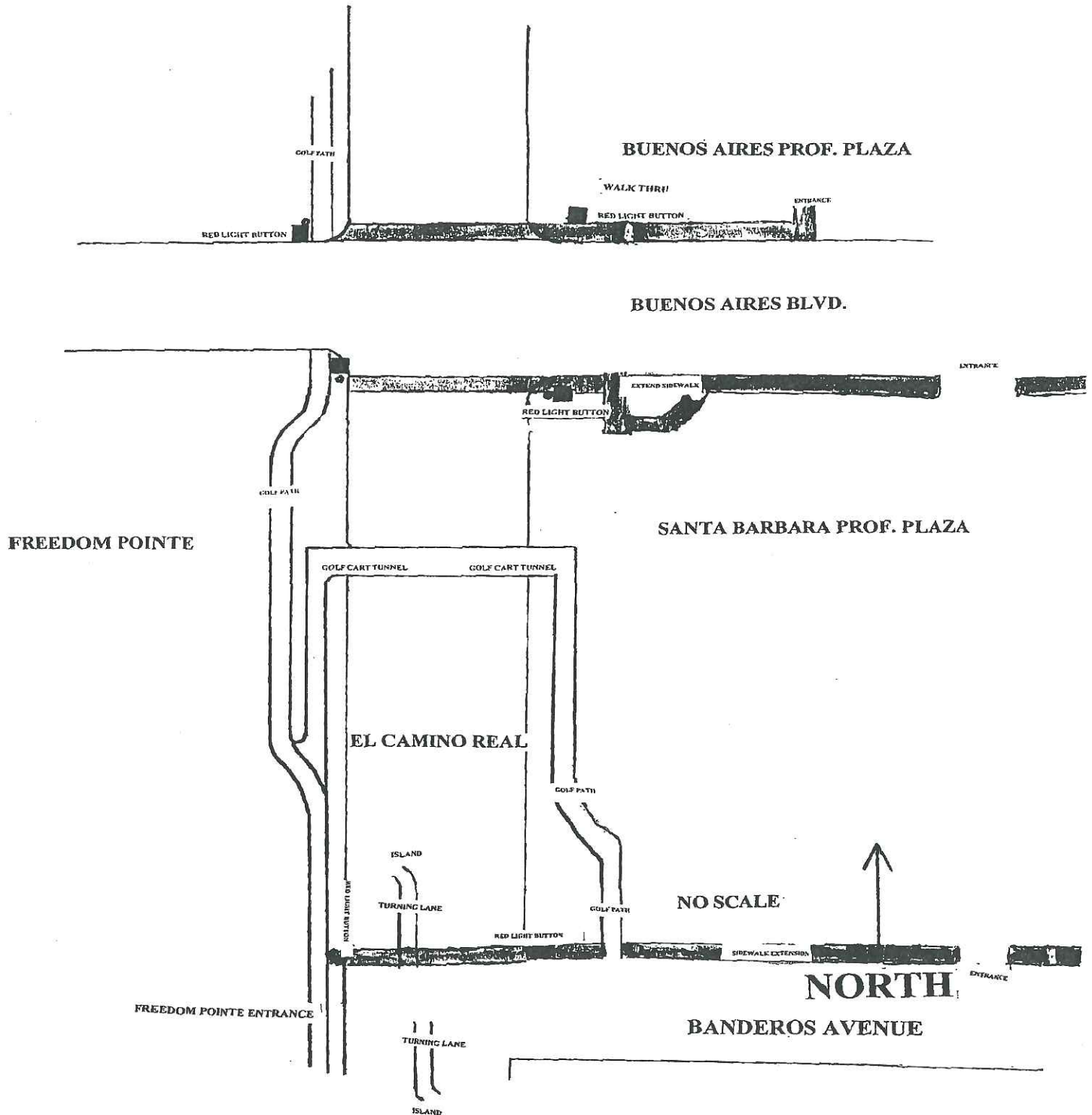
The proposal that is being submitted at this time was designed by John (Jack) Garlick a resident of Freedom Pointe. He is an engineer and he studied the problem and helped prepare an appropriate response. It is our opinion that this proposal offers safe crosswalk access for walkers to both the Buenos Aires Plaza and the Santa Barbara Plaza.

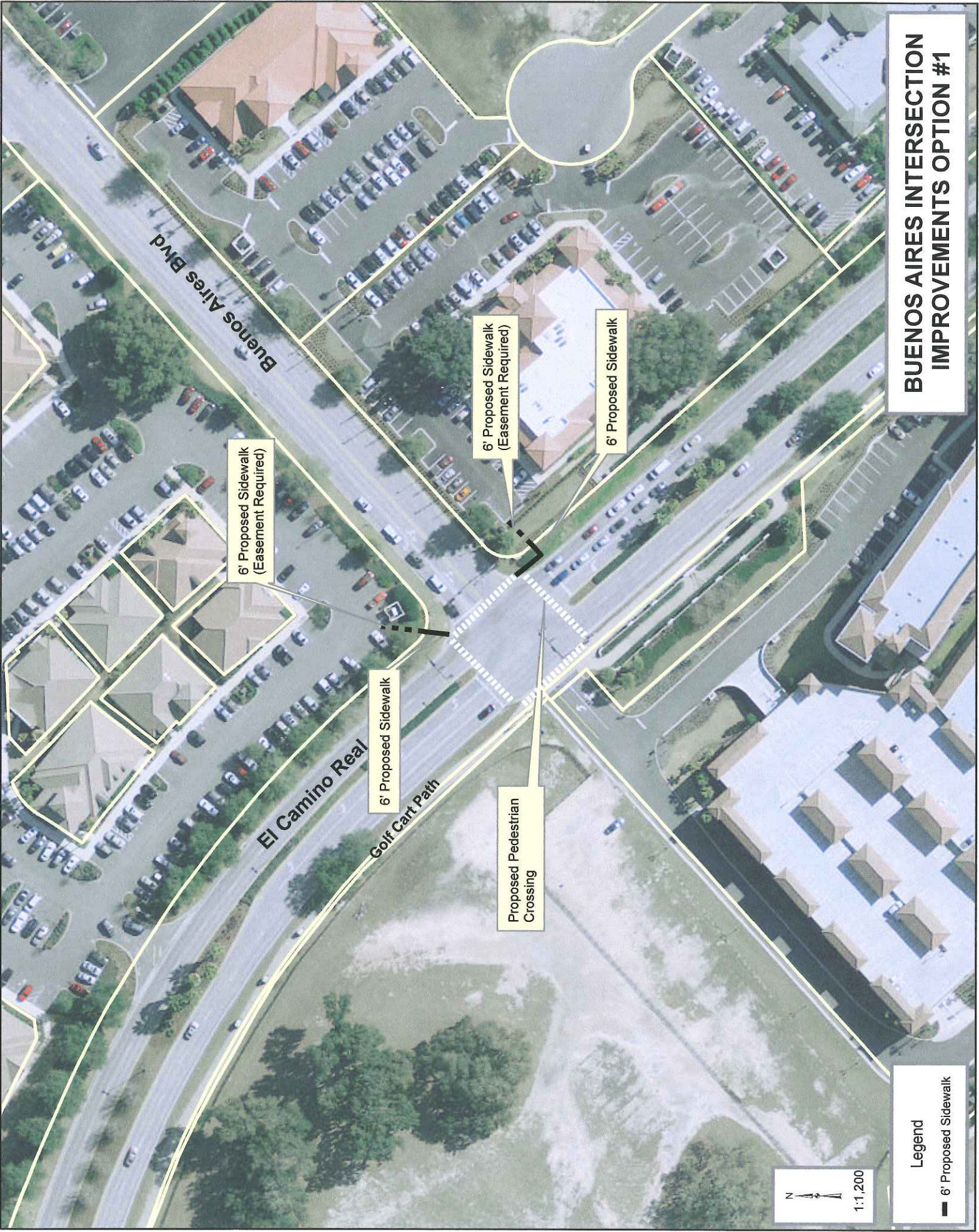
THE PROPOSAL:

- a. Use the existing traffic light system located at El Camino Real and Buenos Aries Blvd.**
- b. Propose that button request crosswalk light signals be installed as shown on the submitted map.**
- c. Install a five foot wide sidewalk extension with user friendly curbing from the corner of El Camino Real to the sidewalk in place running from the Santa Barbara Plaza along Buenos Aires Blvd.**
- d. If the above location is not feasible, the same sidewalk extension construction be put in place with button request crosswalk signal lights at the corner of Banderos and El Camino Real and in front of the Freedom Pointe entrance driveway.**
- e. Since all suggested crosswalk signal lights suggested have to be activated by walkers, traffic flow would only be interrupted periodically when required for crossing.**

We believe that these requests are reasonable and cost effective. More important they meet our primary goal of submitting safe accesses to the two desired areas for walkers.

PROPOSED





**BUENOS AIRES INTERSECTION
IMPROVEMENTS OPTION #1**

6' Proposed Sidewalk
(Easement Required)

6' Proposed Sidewalk
(Easement Required)

6' Proposed Sidewalk

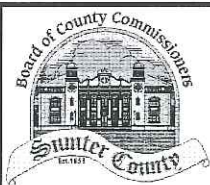
6' Proposed Sidewalk

Proposed Pedestrian
Crossing

Legend

— 6' Proposed Sidewalk

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**BUENOS AIRES
PEDESTRIAN CROSSING
OPINION OF PROBABLE COST
OPTION #1**

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	ESTIMATED QUANTITY		UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
I. MISCELLANEOUS					
1	Mobilization and Maintenance of Traffic	1	LS	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
2	Install Pedestrian Signal Conduits	3	EA	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
3	Pedestrian Signalization	4	EA	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 32,000.00
4	12" White Striping (Thermo)	250	LF	\$ 10.00	\$ 2,500.00
5	Misc. Landscape & Irrigation	1	LS	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
6	Handicap Ramps	6	EA	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
7	Remove and replace existing curb	150	LF	\$ 15.00	\$ 2,250.00
8	6' Wide Concrete Sidewalk	130	LF	\$ 20.00	\$ 2,600.00
9	Easement Acquisition	1	LS	\$10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
SUBTOTAL					\$ 77,850.00
15% CONTINGENCY					\$ 11,677.50
CONSTRUCTION HARD COST					\$ 89,527.50
SURVEY, ENGINEERING DESIGN, AND PERMITTING					\$ 15,000.00
CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION					\$ 2,500.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST					\$ 107,027.50

The Engineer has no control over the cost of labor, materials, equipment, or over the Contractor's methods of determining prices or over competitive bidding or market conditions. Opinions of probable costs provided herein are based on information provided to us by in prior bids for construction costs. The Engineer cannot and does not guarantee that proposals, bids, or actual construction costs will not vary from its opinions of probable costs.

Buenos Aires Intersection Improvements Option #2

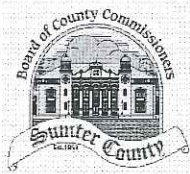


Legend

— 6' Proposed Sidewalk

N

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**BUENOS AIRES
PEDESTRIAN CROSSING
OPINION OF PROBABLE COST
OPTION #2**

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	ESTIMATED QUANTITY		UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
I. MISCELLANEOUS					
1	Mobilization and Maintenance of Traffic	1	LS	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
2	Relocate existing street lights	1	LS	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
3	Relocate Traffic Control Box	1	EA	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
4	Install Pedestrian Signal Conduits	3	EA	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
*5	Additional R/W Acquisition	1	LS	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
6	Pedestrian Signalization	4	EA	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 32,000.00
7	12" White Striping (Thermo)	250	LF	\$ 10.00	\$ 2,500.00
8	Misc. Landscape & Irrigation	1	LS	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
9	Handicap Ramps	6	EA	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
10	Remove and replace existing curb	150	LF	\$ 15.00	\$ 2,250.00
11	6' Wide Concrete Sidewalk	1100	LF	\$ 20.00	\$ 22,000.00
SUBTOTAL					\$ 177,250.00
15% CONTINGENCY					\$ 26,587.50
CONSTRUCTION HARD COST					\$ 203,837.50
SURVEY, ENGINEERING DESIGN, AND PERMITTING					\$ 15,000.00
CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION					\$ 2,500.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST					\$ 221,337.50

* Additional R/W is required only if the 6' sidewalk option is preferred over the 4' sidewalk option as referenced in the typical section. However, a 6' sidewalk meets the minimum FDOT standards.

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EL CAMINO REAL & BANDEROS AVE INTERSECTION OPTION #3

Existing Publix

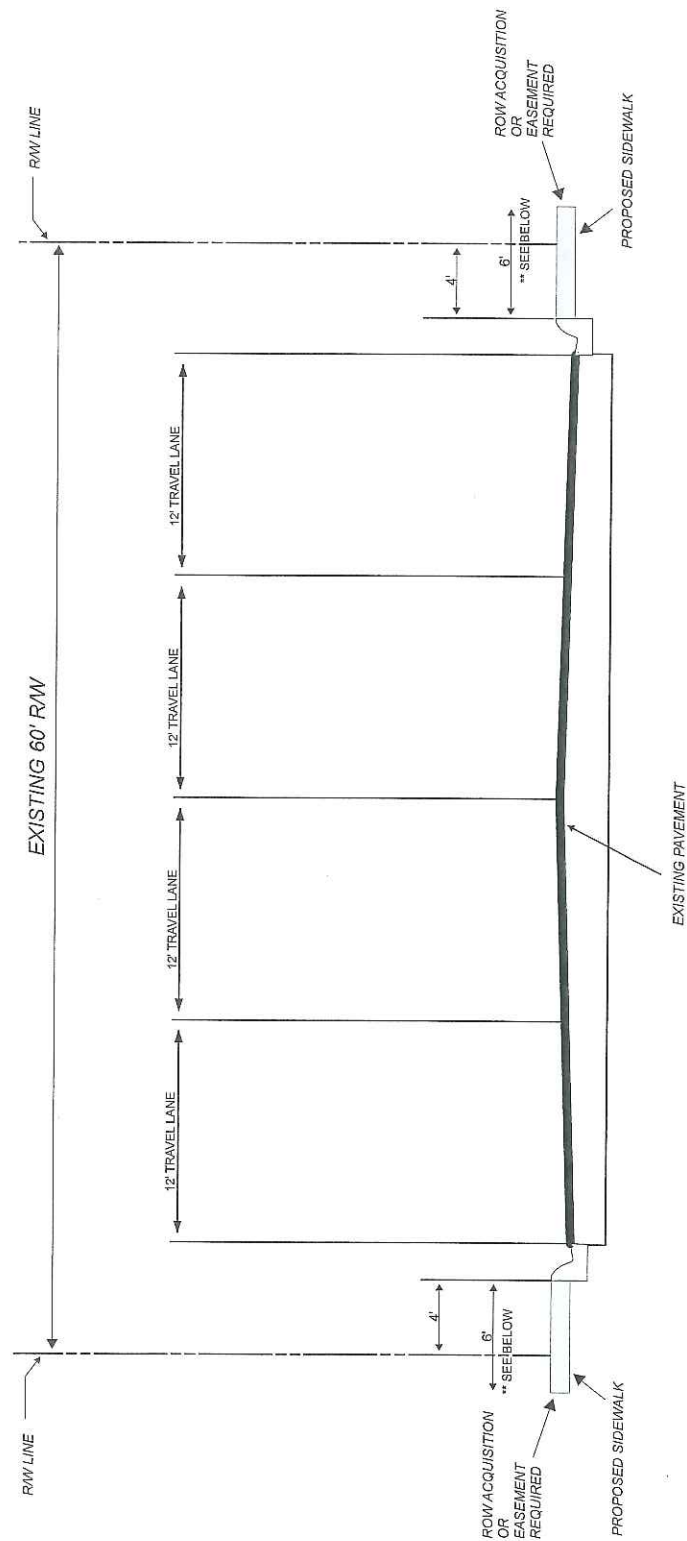
El Camino Real

Buenos Aires Blvd

El Camino Real

Banderos Ave

Freedom Pointe requested consideration
for pedestrian crossing at intersection of
El Camino Real & Banderos Ave



NOTE: IN BOTH SIDEWALK WIDTH OPTIONS, IRRIGATION, LANDSCAPE, AND UTILITIES WOULD NEED TO BE RELOCATED.

** A 6' SIDEWALK (TO MEET FDOT STANDARDS) WOULD REQUIRE RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION OR EASEMENT.

BUENOS AIRES BLVD TYPICAL SECTION